

# National Republican

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**CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS**

Ferry-First Congress—Second Session.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1870.

Senate.

Mr. FANNING presented a memorial of three hundred citizens of Rhode Island, representing their rights as citizens, and their constitutional rights to the right to vote, that naturalized citizens are denied the ballot, unless possessed of \$100 worth of real estate.

Mr. HOWARD expressed the resolution that Rhode Island should amend its legislation in this respect. He did not see, however, how Congress could remedy the matter, unless by calling a convention of the states, and his bill of representation was reduced. He then introduced a bill on the subject to go to the Judiciary Committee, to correct it, if possible, that anomaly, as there certainly should not exist any law which would deny the right to vote between white citizens.

Mr. FINKENBURN offered a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, to \$300,000, being \$17,697 less than the amount voted for the previous year.

Mr. KELLEY of N. Y., who had charge of the bill, introduced a bill on the subject to go to the government of Mexico to comply with certain treaty obligations.

Mr. LYNCH's bill in relation to the decline of American commerce.

Mr. HALE of Maine, then addressed the House.

Mr. ALLEN of Lowell argued in opposition to certain provisions of the bill.

Further further consideration, the morning session adjourned.

Mr. FINKENBURN, of Missouri, entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill to reduce the import duty 20 per cent after August 1, 1870, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House then received Bill to Committee on the whole, and proceeded to consider the same.

Mr. BROOKS. That is not so, sir. The state.

Mr. DAVIS (apparently not noticing the interruption) went on to state that in order to give effect to the decision of the court he had been compelled to go outside the walls of Rome.

He did not seem to affect the gentleman in the least, but the House was silent.

Mr. COOPER of N. Y. said that the Roman people had sided with the confederacy, and this was probably the reason why the gentleman on the other side of the House had withdrawn.

Mr. VONREICH, of Toledo, said he stood up in his place in the House to plead for religion.

He did not know what he had done, but he had purposed on that subject, and declared that it was demanded by the safety and best interests of the country. San Domingo especially.

Mr. COOPER of N. Y. said that the State of Maryland had a most complete system of navigation, and that it was the duty of the nation to conform to the present political condition, and is thus system to be overthrown.

It was a violation to the bill, but it should be left to the Senate to decide.

It is a violation in every line in the third section.

It is a violation beyond the meaning of the words of the fifteenth amendment. Look at other sections of the bill repealing all State laws against bribery and force. It is the glory of the country to stand on the broad shoulders of those who have labored before us.

The bill was then considered by sections.

Mr. BROOKS of New York, moved to amend by sending a minister to Rome, and to strike out from the bill all that it had to do with the Pope.

This was rejected.

Mr. COOPER of N. Y. said that he had voted against the previous motion because he was opposed to striking out Guatemala or any other Central American territory.

Mr. COOPER of N. Y. said that he had a mind to strike out all that would be considered a violation of the Roman Catholic Church.

It was a very important motion, and it had been generally received in a spirit of

enthusiasm and reform.

In the course of his remarks, he referred to the purchase of Alaska, and ridiculed the idea of the purchase of San Domingo. He insisted that it was only a waste of public money to buy Alaska, for it was not demanded by the administration of Andrew Johnson.

Mr. COOPER of N. Y. who had charge of it, said that he was never a Know-Nothing, but he was a spoilt child.

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